

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01

AEC-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00

FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01

PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

FRB-01 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 IO-10 /154 W

----- 043880

P R 261322Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9946

INFO AMEMBASSY AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS TEHRAN 0755

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, IR

SUBJ: KAYHAN REPORTS SHARP DROP IN IRAN'S JANUARY CRUDE  
EXPORTS

1. FRONT PAGE ARTICLE IN "KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL" JAN. 25 REPORTS

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JANUARY EXPORTS FROM KHAZESTAN FIELDS (FORMER CONSORTIUM AREA)

HAVE FALLEN 12 PERCENT AND TOTAL EXPORTS HAVE FALLEN 11 PERCENT FROM THE 1974 MONTHLY AVERAGE. "KAYHAN" SAYS INFORMED SOURCES "EXPECT THE DOWNWARD TREND TO CCONTINUE DURING THE COMING MONTHS AND ATTRIBUTES DECLINING EXPORTS TO "A FALL IN DEMAND FOR IRANIAN CRUDE BY THE WESTERN MAJORS." THE ARTICLE QUOTES "POLITICAL OBSERVERS" AS SAYING "IRAN HAS NO REASON TO BE UNHAPPY ABOUT THE FALLING DEMAND FOR CRUDE OIL. THIS.. WOULD PROLONG THE LIFE-SPAN O THE NATIONS OIL RESERVES. BY KEEPING MORE OF ITS OIL UNDER GROUND, IRAN WILL BE ABLE TO EARN MUCH MORE FROM ITS OIL IN THE FUTURE. IRAN WILL EARN PLENTY OF MONEY FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT PLANS, SAID DAYHAN'S SOURCES, BUT WILL HAVE TO COMMIT SMALLER SUMS TO FOREIGN AID IN THE FURTURE."

2. THE TIMING OF THIS ARTICLE ON JANUARY EXPORTS, BEFORE MONTH HAS ENDED, IS A BIT PUZZLING, BUT IS PROBABLY RELATED TO REMARKS OF CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT YEGANEH ON HIS RETURN FROM IMF MEETING IN WASHINGTON (SEPTTEL). INTENTION IS PROBABLY TO ALERT WORLD THAT IRAN MAY DISPENSE LESS LARGESSE THIS YEAR. NIOC OF COURSE HAS A GOOD IDEA OF WHAT JANUARY TOTALS WILL BE FROM SCHEDULE OF TANKERS EXPECTED TO CALL AT KHARG. FOURTH QUARTER EXPORTS FROM THE KHUZESTAN FIELDS (WHICH WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED) TOTALLED 58,331,276 LONG TONS, VERSUS 183,201,433 LONG TONS FOR THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS. THIS GIVES FOURTH QUARTER AVERAGE OF 19,443,759 LONG TONS PER MONTH. THUS MONTHLY AVERAGE FOR LAST QUARTER IS SOME 911,956 LONG TONS (ABOUT 6.8 MILLION BARRELS PER MONTH) LESS THAN THAT OF FIRST THREE QUARTERS. THAT DOWNWARD TREAND SHOULD HAVE ACCENTUATED THIS MONTH IS SURPRISE TO NO ONE IN VIEW OF MARKET CONDITIONS.  
MIKLOS

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**TAGS:** ENRG, IR  
**To:** STATE  
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